

RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT



11-1 BOMB SQUAD OPERATING MANUAL

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Chief of Police or Designee

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Table of Contents

I. Organization.....	3
II. History.....	3
III. Objectives.....	3
IV. Purpose.....	3
V. Definitions.....	3
VI. Goals, Mission Statement, Organization.....	4
VII. Scope of Responsibilities.....	4
VIII. Duties.....	5
IX. Selection of Personnel.....	6
X. Training.....	7
XI. Accreditation.....	7
XII. Equipment.....	7
XIII. Operational Response Guidelines.....	8
Life Threatening Situation	
Non-Life Threatening Situation	
XIV. Safety Principles for Bomb Response Plan.....	9
XV. Procedures.....	9
Improvised Explosive Devices	
Commercial Explosives Disposal	
Military Ordnance	
Explosive Chemical	
Weapons of Mass Destruction	
Explosives Transport	
XVI. Facilities/Magazines.....	15
XVII. Explosives Range.....	15
XVIII. Interagency Assistance.....	16
XIX. Post Blast Investigation.....	17
XX. Special Purpose Vehicle.....	17

ORGANIZATION AND OBJECTIVES

The Bomb Squad exists within the Special Operations Division. The Bomb Squad is comprised of Bomb Technicians who perform this function as a collateral duty. The Bomb Squad exists to provide the city with prompt mitigation of explosive and other similar hazards.

HISTORY

Prior to 1971, the burden of responding to and neutralizing improvised explosive devices, except for a few major metropolitan areas, was carried by United States Armed Forces Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) units. Based on the increase of radical and terrorist bombings in the late sixties and early seventies, the federal government in the form of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) and public safety agencies in the form of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) entered into agreements to respond to this urgent situation. The National Bomb Data Center was established and the Hazardous Devices School (HDS) was organized at the Redstone Arsenal to provide bomb technician training to the civilian public safety community. A professional organization, "The International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators" (IABTI) was founded in 1973 with a charter mandate to maintain and enhance the professionalism of bomb technicians and bomb crime scene investigations.

Within the bomb technician community, there is an active program to reduce the job hazard through training and the development of new equipment and techniques.

The purpose of this document is to focus administrative attention on the selection, training and operational procedures of bomb technician personnel. Effective procedures not only provide guidelines for safe behavior, but also direction for future enhancements to professional performance.

PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to establish guidelines for acceptable professional practice by the Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad technicians, which will provide maximum safety from physical jeopardy and legal liability for the individual, the governmental agency and the public.

The guidelines established in this document may be deviated from, if in the opinion of the Bomb Squad technicians, the deviation will provide a safer means of resolving a situation.

DEFINITIONS

- **Disruptor**
An explosively driven specialized tool used to Render Safe explosive devices.
- **Dosimeter**
Radiation exposure monitoring device
Military term used for Explosive Ordnance Disposal
- **IED**

- Improvised Explosive Device (Homemade bomb)
- **Life-Threatening**
Clear and present threat to life, including the bomb technician
- **Non-Life-Threatening**
Threat is only to property; no lives are at risk.
- **Ordnance**
Military explosive devices
- **Remote Procedures**
Procedures used to Render Safe and Explosive devices from a safe distance.
- **RSP**
Render Safe Procedure, term used to make an explosive device safe to handle.
- **Technician**
A graduate of the FBI Hazardous Devices School in Huntsville, Alabama.
- **WMD**
(Weapons of Mass Destruction)-Are incidents involving nuclear, radiological, biological, chemical elements, or large volume bombs such as a large vehicle bomb.

GOALS, MISSION STATEMENT, ORGANIZATION

Goal

The goal of the Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad is the preservation of lives and property of the citizens of the City of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mission

The mission of the Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad is to provide the Richmond Police Department with trained personnel and equipment to handle and dispose of improvised explosive-incendiary devices, explosives, explosive chemicals and military ordnance; as well as to assist other law enforcement agencies in handling bombs, bomb threats and post-bomb scene investigations.

Organization

The Bomb Squad is currently assigned to the Special Operations Division. The Bomb Squad Technicians are assigned, in a part time capacity, to this Division.

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

At present, the Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad has the responsibility of handling, storing explosives, the rendering safe or disposal of found or recovered explosives by the Richmond Police Department. The squad will also conduct initial post blast investigations. Upon request the squad may assist county, state or federal law enforcement agencies in the Richmond area.

The term explosive, as used in this Standard Operating Procedure Manual, includes, but is not limited to:

- Nitroglycerin
- Dynamite
- Blasting caps
- Military explosives
- Molotov cocktails
- Incendiary devices
- Smokeless and black powders
- Pyrotechnic devices
- Homemade explosives
- Or explosive chemicals as defined in the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Notice No. 695, List of Explosive Materials.

BOMB SQUAD DUTIES

The Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad will be staffed by at least two (2) bomb technicians who will have the following knowledge, skills and abilities:

- Respond with at least one other trained bomb technician to make safe assumed bona fide bomb or explosive devices.
- Identify, render safe, and dispose of explosives, explosive chemicals, hoax devices, and explosive devices.
- Investigate and process post-bomb scenes.
- Provide technical assistance to S. W. A. T. at barricaded suspects at scenes where explosive entry may be needed.
- Provide V.I.P. security and liaison in terms of explosive ordnance support.
- Train law enforcement personnel.
- Assist investigators with technical information on bomb threats and bombings.
- Maintain all assigned vehicles, equipment, and maintains proficiency in the operation of specialized equipment.
- Keep custody and inventory of all explosives in explosive magazines.
- Maintain liaison with investigators and explosive control personnel of all local, state, federal agencies and military EOD units.
- Make presentations to civic, business, fraternal and school groups. Conduct training classes for Law Enforcement academy classes, Fire departments, other police departments and governmental agencies, as required, in the areas of bomb threat procedures and explosives recognition.
- Develop and conduct continuous in-service training for Bomb Squad members.

- Gives the Squad information on the latest bomb fabrication materials and techniques used by bombers and terrorist groups.
- The Squad trains in the use of new and existing bomb equipment a minimum of forty (48) hours per quarter.
- Maintain a detailed log on date, time, and materials trained with and on.
- Give the bomb dogs explosive training aids and general training for safety.
- Report quarterly to EMS commander, by highlighting situations and trends significant to the Department and Citizens of Richmond.
- Assist other agencies upon request and with Department authorization.
- Maintain working knowledge of Terrorist Activities (Domestic Preparedness information) as well as Active Terrorist Groups.
- Establish and maintain liaison with FBI Bomb Data Center and coordinate information exchange with region wide intelligence units.
- Must be willing to work in a variety of hazardous situations and perform manual labor.
- Must be able to work in close with charred or mutilated bodies and attend coroner's autopsies of these victims.
- Must be a "team worker".
- Follow all procedures for the handling of incidents as described in this Standard Operating Procedure.
- Be on call 24 hours a day to respond to explosive and/or Hazardous Devices related incidents.

SELECTION OF BOMB SQUAD PERSONNEL

The Hazardous Devices School, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, offers bomb technicians training for public safety personnel in the United States. Nomination of candidates is made to the FBI Bomb Data Center and the following selection criteria will be followed:

- Be recommended by the Bomb Squad Commander.
- Meet current requirements, set forth by the Bomb Data Center, for hazardous devices technicians.
- Have a minimum of five (5) years experience with the Richmond Police Department.
- Have five (5) years retainability with in the Department.
- Be willing to engage in basic bomb technician training
- Should possess, by vocation or avocation, familiarity with activities requiring manual dexterity.
- Undergo physiological testing and evaluation.
- Keep immediate supervisor informed of all activities involving the Bomb Squad.

There is a significant correlation between psychological health, as well as physical well being, and successful performance, as a Hazardous Device technician. The Richmond Police Department will be no less stringent than the guidelines established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in its selection of candidates for the Bomb Squad.

TRAINING

To become a certified Hazardous Device technician the officer **MUST** attend and successfully complete the five-week basic course at Huntsville, Alabama, taught by the United States Army.

To maintain certification, the technician must attend the FBI Hazardous Devices Refresher School (Advanced Course) at least every 36 months. Supplemental training will be afforded periodically as available at:

- FBI Post-Blast School, (FBI Academy) or equivalent.
- ATF Post-Blast Bomb Scene Course (Glynco, Georgia) or equivalent.
- U.S. Army Explosives Reconnaissance Schools or equivalent.
- Richmond Fire Department Hazardous Materials Training.
- IABTI Terrorist and Training Conferences.
- Other training as available and approved.
- Regular in-service training will be scheduled for each Bomb Squad member (minimum of 48 hours of hazardous devices proficiency training per quarter). Routine, explosive material disposal, and research and development will be included as part of in-service training.

BOMB SQUAD ACCREDITATION

The Richmond Police Department's Bomb Squad shall be accredited with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Hazardous Devices School as overseen by the Bomb Squad certification and accreditation committee. To be certified and accredited, the squad shall:

- Have FBI/HDS trained and certified bomb technicians
- Have in inventory as listed in Special Technicians Bulletin 87-4:
- Full coverage bomb suit.
- Functioning Portable X-ray System.
- Disrupter.
- Demolition Kit.
- Hand Tools.
- Have a standard operating procedure.

Two bomb squad commanders, from outside the department, will verify this information.

EQUIPMENT

The Explosives and Hazardous Devices Detail has several items of protective clothing and equipment available to it. The following items are maintained by the OIC of the Bomb Squad who

will ensure that all items are accounted for and in working order at all times. Specialized equipment is inspected quarterly.

- MATILDA Robot with accessories
- Bomb suit with communication system
- Level B Protection
- Body armor
- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus available
- Portable X-ray machine and film processor
- Dosimeter
- Disruptors
- Hand Tools
- Bomb/explosives transport trailer and towing vehicle (available from other units).

OPERATIONAL RESPONSE GUIDELINES

The bomb response is the most dramatic and dangerous sequence of events wherein all the standards of acceptable professional practice are brought into focus to solve a serious public safety hazard. When a suspicious item is found and the Bomb Squad responds, the initial course of action should be:

- A. Confirm evacuation perimeter
- B. Gather information and evaluate situation.

The situation analysis shall immediately determine whether it is life threatening, requiring immediate action, or non-life threatening situation

LIFE THREATENING SITUATION

Clear and present threat to life, including the bomb technicians.

- Analyze device and situation and determine threat level.
- Take action necessary to reduce threat level.

When the life threat is eliminated, reverts to non-life threatening procedures.

NON-LIFE THREATENING SITUATION

Threat is only to property; no lives are at risk.

Utilize essential safety equipment unless physically impossible due to environment. Analyze suspect item and environment. Employ remote procedures and techniques (e.g., robot, ropes, disruptor, hand entry, countercharge).

Throughout the decision-making process, the following considerations, listed in order of priority, are paramount:

1. Public safety.
2. Bomb Squad Technician.
3. Protection and preservation of public and private property.
4. Collection and preservation of evidence.

5. Convenience to the public/restoration of services.

SAFETY PRINCIPLES FOR BOMB RESPONSE PLAN

Preservation of human life is of paramount concern to the Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad, which is responsible for the safe disposal of all explosive hazards. The following safety principles shall be followed:

- A Bomb Squad response team must include two (2) Hazardous Devices technicians with essential safety equipment.
- Human life, including that of the bomb squad technician, shall not be placed in jeopardy for the purpose of securing or preserving evidence or property.
- Do not hand enter a device unless A LIFE THREATENING SITUATION EXISTS and NEVER hand enter a pipe bomb.
- Only Bomb Squad technicians or those people requested by the Detail's member shall be permitted within the bomb disposal operation perimeter.
- Paramedics and emergency fire personnel shall be present when the Bomb Squad responds to the scene of a suspicious item.

GENERAL PROCEDURES

A Bomb Squad technician called to a location where an explosive or suspected explosive package is found, should cause the immediate evacuation of all persons to a safe distance. In determining the extent of evacuation required, it shall be assumed that a bomb or explosive may cause damage to property, and fatal or serious injury to persons within an area of at least 300 feet from the point of explosive.

Under no circumstances shall a member of the Bomb Squad attempt to disarm or move a suspected bomb or explosive, until he/she is certain that all safety precautions have been taken, and a second Bomb Squad member is present and the Special Operations Division supervisor has been notified.

Upon arrival, the Bomb Squad technician will contact the Incident Commander. The Technician will obtain as much information as possible about the incident before approaching the suspected object.

The Technician will advise the Incident Commander, if additional evacuation and assistance will be necessary. No other personnel, except a technician, will approach the suspected device. It must be remembered that it is necessary for only one person to be endangered if the object explodes.

Upon completion of any incident involving hazardous devices, commercial or military explosives, the appropriate police reports shall be completed.

IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES (IED) PROCEDURES

Above all else the preservation human life, including that of the technician is paramount.

The following steps are intended as a guide and will vary with the situation:

- A. Ascertain the location and the most accurate information as to what the suspect item may be. Always go prepared with the proper equipment.
- B. Advise the Incident Commander that the suspect item should not be handled or moved. If necessary, advise evacuation of the area.
- C. Upon arrival, contact the Incident Commander.
- D. Inspect area for secondary devices.
- E. Before approaching a confirmed IED, Richmond Fire Department and Paramedics shall be on the scene.
- F. Advise on necessary evacuation and what assistance is needed. **If the device is a suspect vehicle bomb, then evacuation distances may be greatly expanded.** If, in the estimation of the Bomb Squad technician, the evacuation perimeter is inadequate, the Bomb Squad technician shall immediately notify the Incident Commander.
- G. Set up and test all equipment before approaching suspected items.
- H. If possible, the suspect item will be approached and rendered safe with the robot.
- I. If it cannot be handled with robotics, the technician will don protective clothing. (The Technician may wear the bomb suit or the portions of it that the situation may demand).
- J. One technician shall approach the suspect item, examine without touching it, and photograph it if possible.
- K. X-ray the suspected item if not readily apparent that it is an explosive device.
- L. After evaluation of X-rays and all other available information, the decision will be made to render the device safe at the scene, or remove the device to a safe disposal site.
- M. If the suspect item is to be rendered safe in place, or anywhere except on approved disposal area, on scene supervisors will be notified.
- N. Advise the SOD supervisor of the intended course of action, if time permits.
- O. If the device is to be removed from the area using the bomb trailer, use Explosive Transport Procedures.

If a device, in the opinion of the technicians, cannot safely be moved, the technician in charge will notify the on scene supervisor. If the device is located anywhere where property damage may occur as the result of detonation, and time is not a factor, the owner or agent will be notified if possible, that a Render Safe Procedure (RSP) will be attempted, and the possibility of a detonation exists.

COMMERICAL EXPLOSIVES DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

The following steps are intended as a guide and will vary with the individual situation. Steps **A** through **J** of the Improvised Explosive Device Procedure will be followed, then the following steps should be implemented as required:

- A. One technician shall approach and examine item without touching it.
- B. Once it is definitely determined that an item is a commercial explosive, the following procedure will be followed,
- C. Photograph item if possible and safe to do so.
- D. Examine items completely. Obtain description of possible type of explosive: measurements, color, approximate weight, labels, batch numbers, manufacturer, and count number of each item.
 - 1. Blasting caps—describe length, and diameter, crimps on side, if electric, length and color of wires and type of shunt, information from tags and labels should be obtained also.
 - 2. Un-shunted blasting caps should be shunted before transporting.

After it has been determined that the item may be moved safely, utilize the Explosives Transport Procedures. Explosives in good condition need not be transported in the bomb trailer if the technician believes it is safe to do so.

When disposing of large quantities of commercial explosives, the Supervisor of the Special Operations Division shall be notified.

MILITARY ORDIANCE PROCEDURES

The Bomb Squad will respond to the scene of found or recovered Military Ordnance in the same manner as previously described for Improvised Explosive Devices steps **A** through **J**.

- A. At the scene, one Bomb Technician shall approach, photograph and measure items if safe to do so.
- B. Obtain a complete description of the item as to color, various dimensions, and markings. **(NOTE: Military Ordnance items have been reloaded by militant groups, so check to see if items appear to have been repainted or altered).**
- C. If the item has positive safeties or other spring type Military safeties, use care not to dislodge them.
- D. If the item appears to be the type of Ordnance normally equipped with this type safety and none are present, DO NOT TOUCH OR ATTEMPT TO MOVE ITEM. Military E.O.D. will be contacted for advice.
- E. If the suspect piece of Ordnance appears to be Military, but is not readily identifiable, If there is any question or doubt of being able to safely move the item, the area will be secured, and the item left in place pending the arrival of a Military E.O.D. Unit.
- F. If the Ordnance has to be moved, utilize the Explosive Transport Procedures.

- G. If all safeties are in place on the item, it will not be necessary to utilize the Explosives Transport Procedure, unless the technician feels that it is necessary.
- H. If there is any question or doubt of being able to safely move the item, the area will be secured, and the item left in place pending the arrival of a Military E.O.D. Unit.
- I. If Military Ordnance is to be moved and stored until a Military E.O.D. Unit can remove it, the supervisor of the Special Operations Division will be notified, if not present at the scene.

EXPLOSIVE CHEMICAL PROCEDURE

The following is intended as a guide and will vary with individual situations. If the chemical is not listed on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Notice, No.695 List of Explosive Materials, and is deemed to be non-explosive, but presents an immediate public hazard, the Bomb Squad Technician shall contact the Richmond Fire Department Hazardous Materials Unit to handle and or dispose of the chemical.

If the chemical is listed on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Notice, No. 695 (APPENDIX A), and presents an immediate public hazard, the following steps will be followed:

- A. Ascertain the correct location and the best possible information as to what the item may be. Always go prepared with proper equipment.
- B. Advise the Incident Commander that the item should not be handled or moved, and, if necessary, advise evacuation of the area.
- C. Upon arrival, contact the supervisor in charge.
- D. Inspect for secondary devices.
- E. Advise on necessary evacuation and what assistance is needed.
- F. Before approaching confirmed explosive chemicals, a Richmond SWAT Medic or RASI shall be on the scene.
- G. Set up and test all equipment before approaching suspected item.
- H. Wear protective clothing and equipment if possible.
- I. One Technician shall approach, examine without touching, and photograph the item if safe to do so.
- J. Advise the incident commander of the intended course of action.
- K. Notify the Department of Environmental Quality Emergency Response Team, and advise them of the hazard, and request permission for emergency disposal.
- L. If the chemical is to be moved to the disposal area, utilize Explosive Transport Procedures.
- M. Prior to burning, if possible, Virginia Air Quality will be notified.
- N. If explosive chemicals are to be moved and/or disposed of, the supervisor of the Special Operations Division will be notified.

WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (WMD)

Upon receiving information a device we are responding to may be a WMD, the following guidelines will be followed. These steps are intended as a guide and will vary with the individual situation:

- A. Upon notification, gather the most accurate information available and advise on evacuation perimeter.
- B. Confirm that the Richmond Fire Department is en route and upon arrival, institute a Unified Command Incident Command with police and fire.
- C. Gather any additional information available on scene and ensure information flow throughout the Unified Command.
- D. Ensure the area is checked for possible secondary devices.
- E. Don appropriate protective clothing and evaluate suspect device.
- F. Upon returning, de-contaminate if necessary, and disseminate additional information.

Evaluate all available information and determine:

- Is the device a WMD or not?
- Is the device time driven or not?

At a point in the situation analysis where the available information shows the possibility of a bona fide WMD, the FBI hotline will be called (202-324-6700). If the device appears to be a bona fide WMD and **is time driven**, a decision will be made to:

- Use render safe procedures.
- Use containment strategies.
- Perform no action.

If the device appears to be a bona fide WMD and **is not time driven**, a decision will be made to:

- Use render safe procedures.
- Use containment strategies.
- Perform no action.

However, if not time driven, consideration should be given to possible containment strategies and standing by for Federal Response Teams.

Once the threat has been de-escalated, Bomb Squad personnel will assist, if necessary, in the safe collection and containment of explosive material and components. The Bomb Squad will also assist in the containment of the suspect WMD agent as necessary.

EXPLOSIVES TRANSPORT

TO DISPOSAL SITE:

Explosives, potentially explosive materials or IEDs may be removed from the City of Richmond at the time of the incident by utilizing the Richmond Police Department's Bomb Squad with a predetermined number of Fire Department apparatus and personnel. This may consist of a task force operation and utilization of the safest route determined by the Richmond Police Department and the Richmond Fire Department on-scene personnel.

The decision on the safest route of transport can only be determined at the time of the incident. Preplanned routes should be formulated and utilized for maximum safety when possible.

Considerations for transport:

- Safest route
- Time of day
- Traffic conditions
- Amount and type of explosive
- Congested residential areas
- Conditions of roads
- Wind direction, etc.

TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE

A task force may consist of:

- Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad personnel.
- At least two marked Police patrol vehicles with overhead lights.
- One Paramedic Unit from RASI and other Fire Department vehicles as may be necessary.
- Additional Police or Fire units as necessary.

The Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad shall take all explosive materials or IEDs that can be safely moved to the designated disposal area for disposal.

- The technician operating the transport vehicle shall place one marked police patrol vehicle at least 200' in front of the transport vehicle. A second marked police patrol vehicle will be placed 200' behind the transport vehicle.
- The communications section shall be notified of the route to be taken to the disposal area.

- One fire department vehicle with "OPTICON" shall be used as the lead vehicle in a task force operation. Marked police units should "leap frog" ahead of the task force to provide intersection point control. Continual starting and stopping of the transport vehicle can create problems with unstable materials.
- The Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad personnel shall determine the travel speed.
- A reasonable and safe distance shall be maintained between task force vehicles.
- Warning lights shall be used by all vehicles so equipped, unless it is determined to be unsafe to do so. However, the lead vehicle and the last vehicle in the task force shall have all warning lights activated.
- Utilization of sirens shall be determined by on-scene personnel, dependant upon type of explosives and determined by necessity.
- Upon arrival at the disposal site, the communications section will be notified. Escort vehicles will be dismissed from the operation.
- **ALL UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL WILL BE CLEARED FROM THE AREA.**
- The explosive material or IED will be removed from the transport vehicle and rendered safe as the situation may dictate.

FACILITIES/MAGAZINES

The explosives storage magazine for the Richmond Police Department is located at the Richmond Police Department Canine Training Center, 814 Forest Lawn Drive. This is the storage facility for all explosives used by the Bomb Squad and is the storage facility for all explosives of an evidentiary nature, or confiscated explosives.

The current explosives magazine is an Armag 3' x 3' x 3' storage container with an 18" x 18" x 18" cap box attached.

MAGAZINE PROCEDURES:

Keys to the magazine will be issued only to Bomb Squad personnel. Bomb Squad personnel will log in and out all explosives placed in or taken out of the magazine. Evidence and stored explosives will be monitored to ensure safety and the need for of keeping explosives only for necessary periods of time. All evidence or explosives submitted for storage will be properly sealed and identified (case number, date, and the technicians name and payroll number on the containers). MSDS sheets on all inventoried explosives will be kept and available on-site at all times.

EXPLOSIVES RANGE

The Explosives Range for the Richmond Police Department is located at the police outdoor range in Caroline County. The range is used for:

- Disposal of explosives and limited explosive chemicals
- In service training, research and development
- Rendering safe activities
- Demonstrative and practicable exercise area in conjunction with training commitments

WHILE ON THE EXPLOSIVES RANGE

- A minimum of two (2) Bomb Squad technicians will be required for range activities.
- A Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad technician shall be in charge of any and all activity conducted on the range by the Richmond Police Department or any other agency.
- Prior to other agencies using the range, the **Acknowledgement of Protocol and Waiver of Liability** will be signed, and the materials for destruction listed. (SEE APPENDIX C)
- Prior to any detonation on range, the Communications Section will be notified at 804-780-5100.
- No extraneous personnel shall be allowed on the site during detonation procedures. This includes casual observers, superior officers, VIPs and trainees.
- Affected agencies shall be notified of the intent to detonate. This shall include the Caroline County Sheriff's Office.
- The rangemaster shall have at least one portable emergency channel radio with which to summon assistance in case of injury or mishap.
- Detonations should not be attempted in winds beyond 20 m.p.h.
- If any Improvised Explosive Device, Military Ordnance or Explosive Chemicals are transported to the range, a Richmond SWAT Medic will stand by.

INTER-AGENCY ASSISTANCE

There may be times when other Law Enforcement agencies in the Richmond area may need the assistance of the Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad personnel and/or equipment, or the Richmond Police Department may need the assistance of other Law Enforcement agencies in the area of explosives and hazardous devices response. If either situation arises, the following is a guideline and may vary according to the situation at hand.

If Richmond Police Department Bomb Squad technicians are unavailable, Explosives and Hazardous Devices technicians from other Law Enforcement agencies who have successfully

completed the basic technician school in Huntsville, Alabama, may be called upon for assistance in an emergency situation. The Virginia State Police and Henrico County Police Department have qualified personnel.

Other Law Enforcement agencies in the Richmond Area may utilize RPD Bomb Squad personnel and equipment in accordance RPD rules and Procedures. These other agencies may include the surrounding county Police Departments, The Federal Bureau of Investigation, The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and various state agencies.

The Richmond Police department Bomb Squad chain of command will be notified for permission for response to outside agency requests. If this chain of command is unavailable, the procedures established and outlined in Richmond Police Department Rules and Procedures shall be followed.

POST BLAST INVESTIGATION

The Bomb Squad will do initial post blast investigation. Arson Detectives will perform follow-up investigation.

The Bomb Squad will respond to all post blast incidents primarily to abate any threat to investigators and provide technical expertise. Bomb Squad members will:

- Check for secondary devices
- Check for residual/unconsumed explosives
- Conduct initial investigation of scene
- Assist Arson Investigators
- Assist in technical aspects of investigation
- Complete all departmental reports
- Act as custodians for all explosive evidence

SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE

The Bomb Squad utilizes and maintains an EOD Response Vehicle for remediation of suspicious packages. It is also the primary storage location for operational equipment to include (but not limited to) the following:

- Remotec F6A Robotics Platform with radio assembly (1)
- EOD 9 Bomb Suits (2)
- Bomb Suit communication system (1)
- Logos imaging kit (1)
- Golden x ray kit (1)
- (2) Pan disrupters w/ (2) aluminum pan stands
- Med-eng hook and line kit (large) (1)
- Med-eng back pack hook and line kit (1)
- Trooper remote handling device (1)
- Hornet/stinger blast machine (1)

- Shock tube initiator kits (9)
- Mini Gander robotic camera system (1)
- Wireless video fiber scope (1)
- EOD gas monitoring kit (1)
- Handheld radiation monitor (1)
- Personal radiation monitor (1)
- Miscellaneous hand tools

The use of the EOD response vehicle does not require any specific training, however, its use shall be limited to Bomb Squad personnel.